

### **REMARKS**

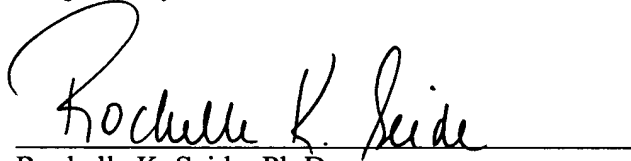
This application is submitted under 35 U.S.C. 371 and claims priority to International Application No. PCT/IB2002/05554 filed December 20, 2002, the entire specification claims and drawings of which are incorporated herewith by reference

Claims 1-6 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-4 and have been amended. Claims 5 and 6 have been canceled. New claim 7 has been added. Applicants submit that the amendments made herein are fully supported by the Specification as originally filed and, therefore, no new matter has been introduced. Accordingly, claims 1-7 are now pending in the present application and are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Applicants submit herewith the International Search Report and Written Opinion issued in International Application No. PCT/IB2002/05554. Applicants respectfully request that these documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-referenced application. Applicants have amended the pending claims to clarify that the present invention is directed to a process for preparing fruit spread wherein the process does not include the addition of a sugar, sweetener, pectin or gum. Support for this limitation is found throughout the specification and also in the claims as originally filed. No new matter has been added. Applicants submit that these amendments place pending claims 1-7 in a condition for allowance. Therefore, consideration and allowance of claims 1-7 is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that no additional fees are required in connection with this filing. However, if additional fees are required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional payment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing **Attorney Docket No. 026033.00032.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rochelle K. Seide", is written over a horizontal line.

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